

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 STR-04 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 OIC-02

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1924

INFO US MISSION MTN GENEVA 1637

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EO. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, JA

SUBJ: MTN: SOME GOJ VIEWS

REF: A. MTN GENEVA 5680 B. MTN GENEVA 5838

1. SUMMARY: DURING COURTESY CALL BY C/C COUNSELOR ON HIDETOSHI UKAWA, DIRECTOR OF FONOFF'S FIRST INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DIVISION, ECONOMIC AFFAIRS BUREAU, UKAWA MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON MTN. END SUMMARY.

2. GOJ CONTINUES TO DOUBT FEASIBILITY OR DESIRABILITY OF SELECTING, AGREEING OR (PARTICULARLY) IMPLEMENTING EARLY MEASURES IN ADVANCE OF GENERAL MTN AGREEMENT. IT FEARS BALANCE OF OVERALL AGREEMENT MAY BE MADE MORE DIFFICULT BY SUCH PROCEDURES: ALSO IT BELIEVES CHANCES OF OBTAINING DIET APPROVAL ARE MUCH BETTER IF COMPLETE AGREEMENT IS SUBMITTED ON QTE YES OR NO BASIS UNQTE. HOWEVER, GOJ COULD SUPPORT SUCH INTERIM CONCRETE RESULTS AS SETTING DETAILED OBJECTIVES OR PREPARING DRAFT TEXTS WITH DISPUTED LANGUAGE

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LEFT IN BRACKETS.

3. LDC PRESSURES POSE DILEMMA, ESPECIALLY WITH UNCTAD IV COMING UP IN MAY 1976. THERE IS DANGER THAT EARLY CONCESSIONS TO LDCS WOULD SIMPLY BE TAKEN BY THEM AS THEIR DUE AND MORE DEMANDED, WITH QUESTION OF RECIPROCITY FALLING BY THE WAYSIDE. ON THE OTHERHAND, FAILURE TO SHOW PROGRESS BY TIME OF UNCTAD IV WOULD STRENGTHEN HAND OF CYNICAL LDC ELEMENT THERE AND INCREASE PRSSURES FOR CONFRONTATION OR DISRUPTION IN MTN. UKAWA AGREED WITH SUGGESTION BY EMBOFF THAQ SUBSTANTIAL BENEFITS FOR LDC'S NEED TO BE SEEN TO BE ATTAINABLE BY TIME OF UNCTAD IV IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN VOICES OF MODERATE LDC DELS IN URGING OTHERS TO EXERCIZE RESTRAINT (AS OCCURRED IN 1973 MEETING OF UNCTAD COMMITTEE ON MANUFACTURES, WHEN MFA ON TEXTILES WAS BEING NEGOTIATED IN GATT CONTEXT). HE AGREED THAT PREPARATION OF DRAFTS WITH BRACKETED LANGUAGE MIGHT BE USEFUL IN THIS REGARD

4. AS TO PRESENT STATE OF NEGOTIAAIONS, UKAWA STATED HIS VIEW THAT SECRETARIAT IS CURRENTLY ARRANGING TOO MANY MULTILATERAL MEETINGS. BILATERAL SESSIONS DEALING SPECIFICALLY WITH CONCRETE ISSUES ARE REQUIRED NOW BETWEEN MAJOR PARTICIPANTS, UKAWA SAID, SO THAT SERIOUS OFFERS CAN SUBSEQUENTLY BE MADE IN MULILATERAL SESSIONS WITH SOME IDEA OF THEIR ACCEPTABILITY TO OTHER MAJOR PARTNERS.

5. COMMENT: REF B NOTING DATE HAS TENTATIVELY BEEN SET FOR U.S. - JAPAN BILATERAL ON BASE RATES/BASE DATES ISSUE ARRIVED HERE AFTER OUR TALK WITH UKAWA. IT WOULD FOLLOW FROM HIS REMARKS THAT GOJ WOULD WELCOME OPPORTUNITY TO MOVE AHEAD WITH OTHER SUCH SESSIONS.
SHOESMITH

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